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ABSTRACT

This module on the button sew machine, one in a series dealing with industrial sewing machines, their attachments, and operation, covers one topic: performing special operations on the button sew machine. These components are provided: an introduction, direction, an objective, learning activities, student information, a student self-check, and a check-out activity. An instructor's final checklist for evaluating students' performance is attached. (YLB)

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Division of Instruction
Sidney B. Cooper, Deputy Superintendent

Office of Vocational Education
Dr. Moody M. Oswald, Jr., Director

Vocational Curriculum Development Section
Dr. Robert T. Benson, Chief Supervisor

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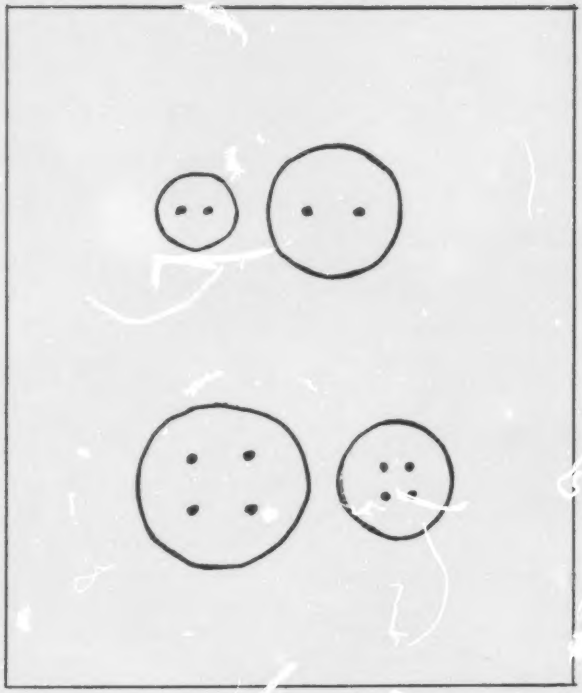

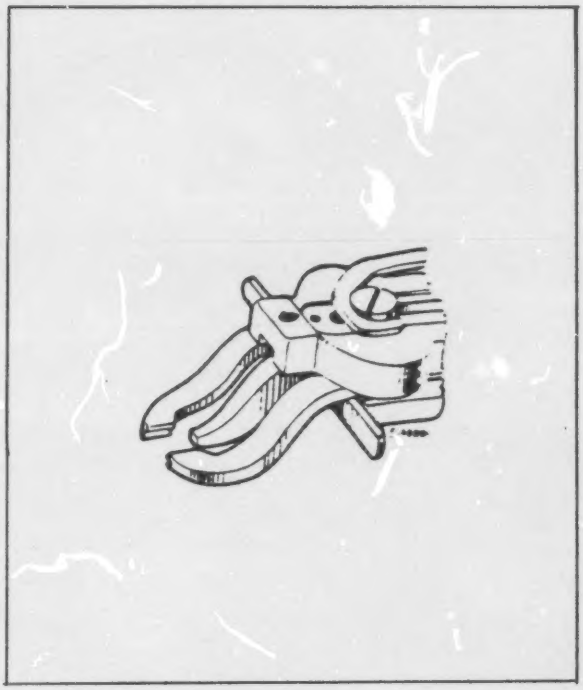

PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON THE BUTTON SEW MACHINE

INTRODUCTION

The button sewing stitch is merely a zig zig stitch. It may be either lockstitch or single thread chainstitch. Since the machine is automatic, it will sew a specified number of stitches a preset distance apart. This is occasionally used as a bar tack machine in some plants, but if the machine makes these stitches through the holes of a button, we can see how it will sew on buttons as well.

Since most buttons are of the two-hole or four-hole variety, the average machine can be adjusted to sew either of these types. Most machines can also be converted to sew a shank button. Since the sewing process is the same, the main difference is the way the button is set into the clamp before sewing.

DIRECTIONS

Read the Objective. If you think you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given a button sew machine, snips, buttons, and shirt front, sew on ten buttons. Placement for each button should be premarked or gauged to insure a proper fit.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, THE BUTTON SEW MACHINE.
2. VIEW a teacher demonstration on the operation of the button sew machine.
3. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, THE BUTTON SEW MACHINE.
4. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

The Button Sew Machine

Buttons are spaced according to buttonholes and should be sewn on after the buttonhole is made unless the button is a trim.

The spacing gauge used on the buttonhole machine may be attached to the button sew machine. Sometimes the button space is marked with invisible chalk which shows under a black light (glow light) or regular chalk may be used for marking.

The button sew machine has a raised cylinder bed. Since many buttons are in inaccessible places, the raised bed enables the operator to get at any area on a garment by placing the work under the clamp and at the same time placing the button in the jaws of the clamp. When the machine is started by the pedal, it will sew the button automatically and cut the thread at the end of the sewing cycle.

Figure 1 illustrates the button sew machine with the raised bed. Notice the clamp with the jaws spread apart.

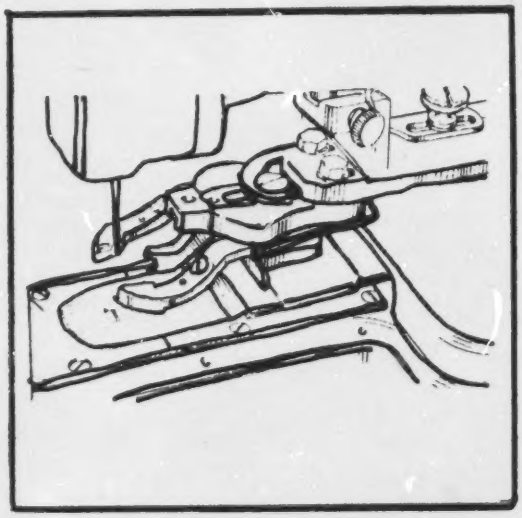

Figure 1

Since the clamp holds the button with the front edge open, the operator merely rotates the button in the clamp with the thumb until the holes are properly lined up (Figure 2).

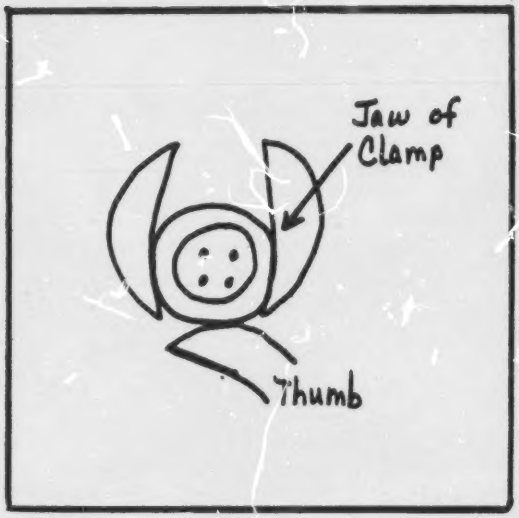

Figure 2

The jaws are sping controlled so that the button can be pushed in and still be held by the jaws (Figure 3). The jaws can be adjusted to hold small or large buttons. (Sizes refer to button measurement as ligne. Example: 40 ligne button equals 1 inch diameter.)

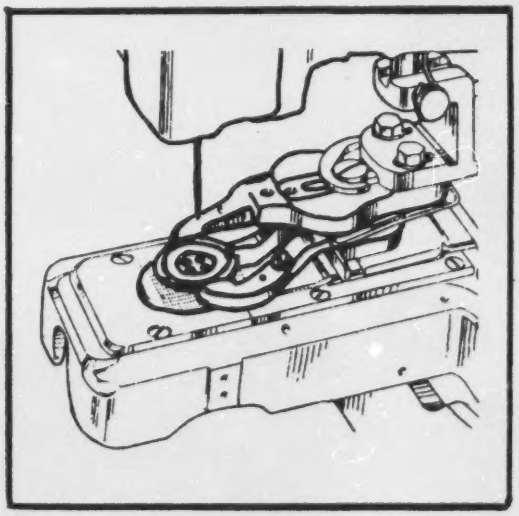

Figure 3

To make the four-hole sewing pattern, the machine will sew the required number of stitches in the top two holes and then shift the clamp, the work, and the underclamp so that the bottom two holes are then under the needle. In other words, the needle bar does not shift forward, the work does. The machine sews the two bottom holes and returns to the original position. (Figure 4).

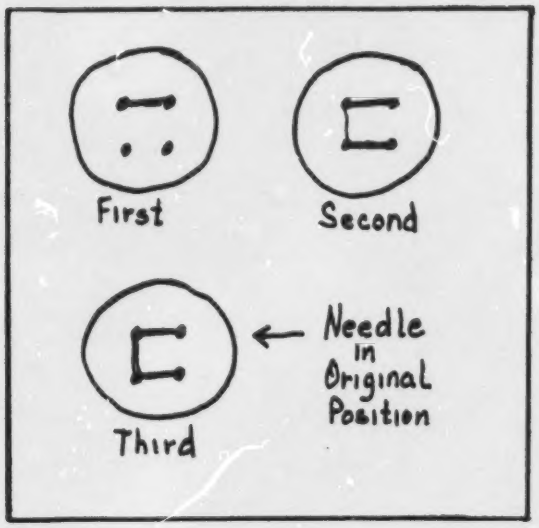

Figure 4

The width of the bite can be adjusted to fit a large variety of buttons. The distance between the top and bottom rows can also be adjusted (Figure 5).

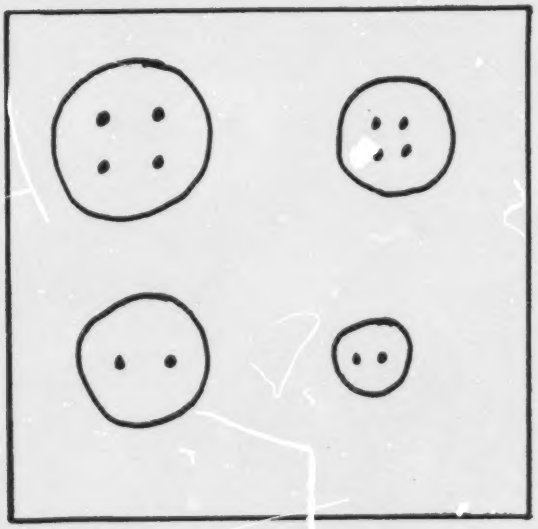

Figure 5

On the button sew machine, the operator must be concerned with (1) placing the work under the clamp at the exact spot where the button is to be sewn; and (2) placing the button into the clamp. The holes in the button must be lined up under the needle. Buttons set into the clamp in any of the following ways will only cause the needle to break (Figure 6).

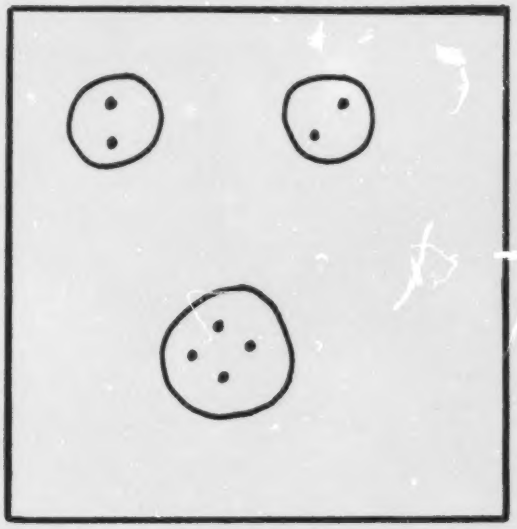

Figure 6

Many regular buttons have four holes which the machine will sew in two different sewing motions. The changeover from two to four-hole buttons is a very simple change on the machine and can be done by the operator in two or three seconds (Figure 7). Refer to the machine manual for directions.

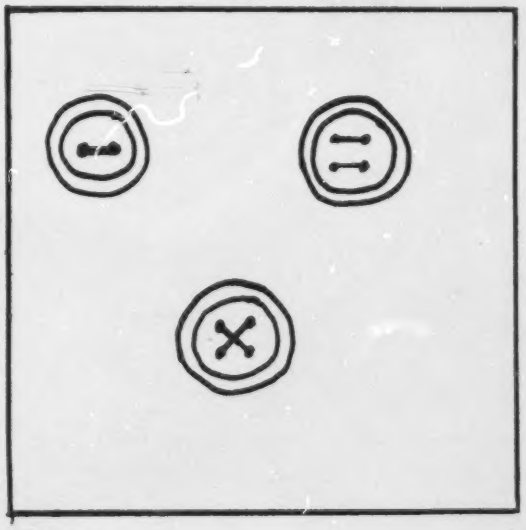

Figure 7

The button sew machine can be converted to sew naps, hooks and eyes, and other items which require a type of stitch (Figure 8).

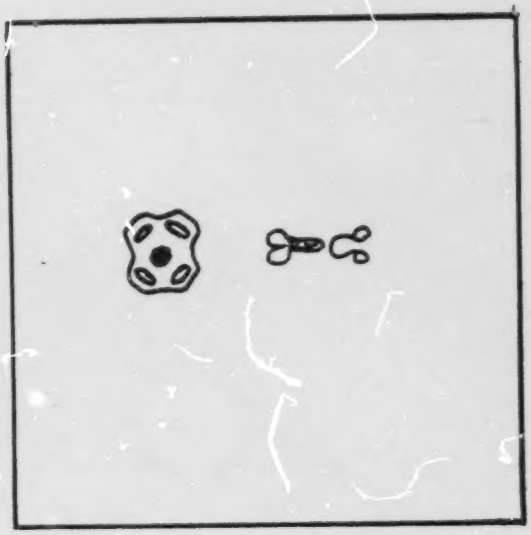

Figure 8

For the shank button, the machine would sew in the same manner as for a two-hole button. When shank buttons are used, the jaws are replaced with an attachment which holds the button on its side so that the hole in the shank is presented to the needle in the same manner as a flat button (Figure 9).

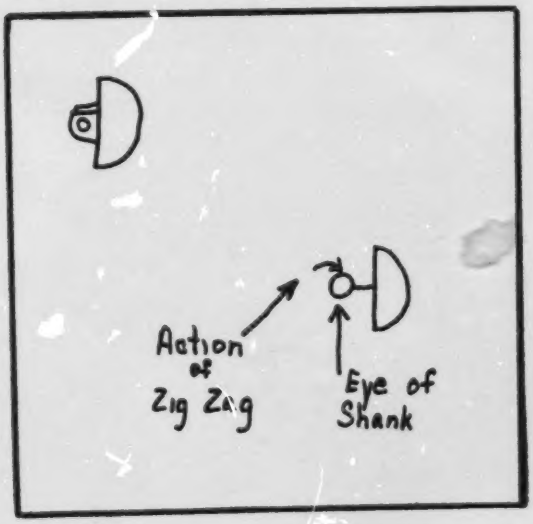

Figure 9

When the operation is highly standardized and production is great enough, a hopper feed can be added which will allow one button at a time to come down and drop into the clamp. The operator merely has to line up the button before starting the machine.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. All buttons have only two eyes. (True or false)

2. The buttons do have to be lined up under the needle. (True or false)

3. The machine will only sew on one size button. (True or false)

4. When the button has been sewn to the garment the operator must cut the thread. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITY

The statement below explains the activity you must complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activity, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON THE BUTTON SEW MACHINE.

Your instructor will provide you with a button sew machine, snaps, shirt or blouse fronts, and buttons. The position of the buttons has been premarked. Sew on ten buttons.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

Check the student's performance in the following elements of performing special operations on the button sew machine.

Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
1. Sewed the buttons on the premarked cloth.	( )	( )	( )	( )
2. Sewed the required number of stitches.	( )	( )	( )	( )
3. Constructed the sewing line so as to be equal.	( )	( )	( )	( )